IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Cobbley et al.

Serial No.: 09/576,727

Filed: May 23, 2000

For: SYSTEM FOR LOCATING CONDUCTIVE SPHERES UTILIZING SCREEN AND HOPPER OF SOLDER

BALLS (as amended)

Confirmation No.: 3108

Examiner: M. Trinh

Group Art Unit: 3729

Attorney Docket No.: 2269-3639.1US

(1997-1383.01/US)

Notice of Allowance Mailed:

August 14, 2009

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING NOVEMBER 12, 2009

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is filed in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed August 14, 2009, and sets forth Applicant's comments, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e), on the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance accompanying the Notice of Allowance.

In the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner indicates:

The indicated allowable subject matter has been fully incorporated into each of the independent claims (i.e., see claims 5 and 22 as amended).

Applicants concur with the reasons as stated by the Examiner insofar as they comprise a summary, which is exemplary and not limiting. However, the scope of the claims is based on the actual language of the claims and equivalents thereof, and not on a paraphrase or summary of the claim language.

The Independent claims as allowed recite features and methodology in addition to, and in different language than, those described in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Furthermore, the dependent claims recite elements in addition to those of the independent claims, which are also not reflected in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Such additional elements, in combination with those of the independent claims from which each claim depends, provide additional reasons for patentability. Accordingly, the scope of the claims must be determined from the literal language of each as a whole, as well as all equivalents thereof.

Therefore, to the extent that the Examiner's reasons for allowance as stated are not relevant to, or wholly encompassing of, a particular claim, independent or dependent, Applicants assume that (pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.104(e)) the Examiner has determined that the record of the prosecution as a whole of the application makes clear the reasons for allowing those claims. Further, it appears, pursuant to M.P.E.P. 1302.14, that the Examiner's S Statement of Reasons for Allowance are not intended to encompass all of the reasons for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 12, 2009

JRD/nj:lmh
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